



# *DOG FLU*

*What you need to know  
to keep your pets safe*



## *What is dog flu?*

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Dog flu is a highly contagious respiratory disease caused by canine influenza virus. Currently, there is only one strain of concern affecting dogs in the United States, H3N2.<sup>1</sup>

## *How serious is dog flu?*

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Although the signs of dog flu are typically mild, up to 20% of infected dogs may exhibit more severe signs, such as those often associated with pneumonia.<sup>2</sup>

***UP TO 8%***

**of infected dogs become critically ill,  
with possible fatal complications<sup>3</sup>**



# What are the clinical signs of dog flu?

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- ✓ Coughing and retching
- ✓ Sneezing
- ✓ Nasal and/or ocular discharge
- ✓ Decreased appetite
- ✓ Lethargy



# How is dog flu spread?

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Similar to the common cold in humans, dog flu is a “social” disease that spreads through direct and indirect contact.



## ***DIRECT CONTACT***

(sniffing, licking, or nuzzling)



## ***THE AIR***

(coughing or sneezing)



## ***CONTAMINATED SURFACES***

(shared water/food bowls and toys or human hands/clothes carrying the virus)

# *Are certain dogs at greater risk for infection?*

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Dog flu can be a threat to any dog regardless of age or health status. However, certain activities can raise your dog's risk of infection.

- ✔ Boarding facilities
- ✔ Doggie daycares
- ✔ Groomers
- ✔ Travel



**ASSESS YOUR DOG'S RISK**

Take the dog flu quiz now



# Should your dog be vaccinated against **DOG FLU?**

Dog flu is not seasonal. It's critical to provide your dog with the best protection possible year round.

When discussing dog flu vaccination with your veterinarian, be sure to mention the risks they're exposed to, such as doggie daycares, boarding facilities, groomers, and travel.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Your dog can catch canine flu and *Bordetella bronchiseptica* (often known as “kennel cough”) through many of the same activities.

**References:** 1. IDEXX Laboratories – Results from samples submitted for CIRDC testing in the US. 2. Reagan KL, Sykes JE. Canine infectious respiratory disease. *Vet Clin Small Anim.* 2020;50:405–418 3. Crawford C, Spindel M. Canine influenza. In: Miller L, Hurley K, eds. *Infectious Disease Management in Animal Shelters.* Ames, IA: Wiley-Blackwell. 2009:173–180.